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Hecate submits amended permit for solar facility



Hecate Energy

Hecate Energy, a leading developer, owner and operator of renewable power projects in the U.S., is pleased to announce that it has submitted an amended Special Use Permit to the Pulaski County Office of Planning and Zoning.

The permit was updated to incorporate improvements the developer made to its plan to construct and operate a utility-scale solar energy facility in Pulaski County.

In January, the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors approved a Special Use Permit for the Project based upon a preliminary site plan dated November 18, 2020. Since the issuance of the Special Use Permit, Hecate has conducted additional geotechnical and engineering evaluations that resulted in a refinement and improvement of the preliminary site plan approved in January.

As a result of these engineering evaluations and layout improvements, Hecate amended the preliminary site plan and requested an amended Special Use Permit.

The project amendments include both the addition and removal of parcels of land, refinement of the location and equipment needed to connect and deliver the power to the existing area transmission facility and optimizing the layout with state-of-the-art solar racking and panel systems. Much of the facility footprint remains unchanged from the plans submitted to the County in 2020.

A number of these changes reflect feedback Hecate received

during the previous Special Use Permit approval process.

"The new layout represents our commitment to making this project the absolute best it can be," said Project Manager Preston Schultz. "Ensuring that we utilize the land more effectively provides the greatest benefit for the community. The layout we are presenting reflects our commitment to the community to reduce the project's visual impact on the viewshed to the greatest extent possible."

The proposed solar farm is expected to produce up to 280 megawatts (MW) of clean, Virginia-made energy that can power

See SOLAR, page A2

Review paints dire picture of Virginia Employment Commission

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — A year and a half into the coronavirus pandemic, the Virginia Employment Commission is still swamped with backlogged claims, its call centers are underperforming and serious staffing problems persist, according to a scathing interim report the state's

legislative watchdog agency presented to lawmakers Monday.

The agency's staff undertook its review after the employment commission came under harsh scrutiny from lawmakers and members of the public for its by some measures worst-in-the-nation response to the surge in job-

less claims that began early last year. Thousands of Virginians have faced lengthy delays while waiting for benefits, and many have been unable to reach anyone for help or information about their case.

"While operating in the extremely challenging public health environment created by COVID was understandably difficult ... meaningful actions could have been taken sooner to respond to the public's needs," Hal Greer, director of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission, said at the start of Monday's presentation.

Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam's secretary of labor, Megan Healy, oversees the employment commission and defended its performance. Although she agreed that the agency was not prepared for the pandemic, she argued in remarks to lawmakers that the root of the problem was a complicated federal funding formula that's long left the agency

See VEC, page A2

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VEC

Continued from Page A1

starved for resources.

The review commission's work will continue, with a final report and additional recommendations for improvement expected in November. What follows is a look at the interim findings:

TIMELINESS ISSUES AND A GROWING BACKLOG

In the past, the employment commission generally issued initial payments in a timely manner, Lauren Axselle, who is leading the review, said Monday. But since the start of the pandemic, a problem has emerged.

The percentage of first payments that met the federal government's standard has sharply fallen since the first quarter of 2020, and by this July, only 26% of first payments were issued within 21 days. Nearly half of claimants were waiting more than 70 days for payment, Axselle said.

Meanwhile, a backlog in more complicated claims requiring adjudication has accumulated.

While the VEC has completed adjudicating 92,000 claims as re-

quired by a May 2021 settlement in a class-action lawsuit, other cases are piling up. More than 100,000 claims not included in the lawsuit still required adjudication as of August, and an estimated 1 million claims issues that were previously bypassed to expedite payments may have to be revisited, Axselle said.

The VEC has not been able to hire enough staff to deal with those complex cases. According to Axselle's presentation, 46% of full-time adjudication positions were vacant as of mid-July, and turnover in the agency was high, at 44% between January 2020 and July 2021.

First-level appeals, which were also timely before the pandemic, are now taking twice as long as the national average at 275 days, according to her presentation.

ACCURACY AND OVERPAYMENT CONCERNS

To expedite payments, the agency approved some claims before reviewing key documents to determine eligibility, Axselle said. That's resulted in millions of dollars of overpayments, which are difficult to collect.

Last year's rate of incorrect payments — which can result from fraud or mistakes and are

almost always overpayments — was just under 45%, she said, substantially higher than the 10% standard the federal government considers acceptable, Axselle said. The agency is estimated to have issued \$930 million in incorrect payments through the state-level unemployment insurance program last year, according to the presentation.

For now, all efforts to collect incorrect payments have been paused because of the backlog of pending adjudications, Axselle said.

CALL CENTER WOES

Throughout the pandemic, Virginians have faced frustration in trying to reach VEC customer service call centers. Many have turned to social media or online forums to crowdsource help.

According to Monday's presentation, the centers have been answering only a small portion of calls, largely because of insufficient information technology systems and too few staff.

In June 2020, about 6% of calls were being answered. By June 2021, things were worse, at 4% answered, according to the presentation. The average customer wait time also grew from about a three-hour wait to a 10-hour

average wait over the year. And millions of calls were blocked entirely.

Even if a caller gets through, they don't always reach an employee able to answer their question.

LONG-RUNNING PROBLEMS

Well before the pandemic led to government shutdown measures and a surge in jobless claims, the VEC had too few staff to keep up with the workload, Axselle said.

The agency, which uses an IT system developed in 1985 that relies on a nearly obsolete programming language, is in the midst of a modernization project that began 12 years ago and should have been completed long ago.

That's meant an overreliance on manual processes and paper documents, Axselle said. For instance, VEC staff described having to manually enter applicant data into the system even when applications were submitted online, she said.

Del. Terry Austin, a Botetourt Republican, said after the presentation that he continues to hear from constituents — "their backs are to the wall" — facing problems with the agency.

"We just have to put this on the front burner and get it fixed," he said.

Northern Virginia localities approve plastic bag tax

By TYLER ARNOLD

(The Center Square) — Shoppers in some northern Virginia localities will see a new charge on their receipts if they use plastic bags to carry their items once a new tax goes into effect in January.

In the past week, Arlington County, Fairfax County and the city of Alexandria adopted ordinances to impose a 5-cent tax on each plastic bag used in purchases, which will be paid by the shopper. The tax resembles the ones in nearby Washington, D.C. and Montgomery County in Maryland.

Local officials cited environmental concerns as the reason for the tax, but some business groups fought in opposition to it.

"A decrease in plastic carryout bags will lessen our environmen-

Solar

Continued from Page A1

er more than 30,000 homes. The facility is to be located near the New River Valley Airport and NRV Commerce Park in Dublin, Virginia.

The amended Special Use Permit process will be managed by the Pulaski County Office of Planning & Zoning, which is responsible for reviewing and permitting land use development in Pulaski County, with hearings at both the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors.

The Pulaski County Planning Commission will host a Public Hearing and consider the matter on Tuesday, October 12th at 7 PM.

The Pulaski County Board of Supervisors will host a Public Hearing and consider the matter on Monday, October 25th at 7 PM.

Both meetings will be held at the Pulaski County Administration Building, Board Meeting Room. The address is 143 Third Street, NW, Pulaski, VA 24301

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Walnut grove located at the Foster Falls access, next to the New River at New River Trail State Park. Below, the vibrant colors of Maples at Chestnut Falls Trestle.

Va. Tech expert: Virginia’s vibrant autumn colors could be early this year

From Virginia Tech

Autumn leaf watchers, be advised. The fall foliage colors in Virginia may peak by the third week of October this year – about a week ahead of normal, according to Virginia Tech tree physiology expert John Seiler.

“I’m seeing some signs of things being a little early this year. A couple of particular ‘go to trees’ I monitor, they’ve already got some yellow in them. We may be a week early, in part because of the lack of long term rain. Before the recent storms, we were drying out a bit. But that slow, steady drizzle should really help,” said Seiler. “Decent amounts of precipitation keep the leaves from dropping too soon. And because those vivid reds form in the fall, rain improves the outlook they’ll be bright and colorful.”

Seiler is quick to point out that Virginia never really has a poor

or average year for fall colors. It’s either good, better or best.

“That’s because of the diversity and wide varieties of tree species here in Virginia. If one tree gets hurt by a hot dry August, there’s another species that didn’t. It buffers the bad weather like that,” he said. “Our mountains offer constantly changing elevations and aspects, which lead to a higher

biodiversity, which leads to a greater mixture of fall color.”

“People should be looking at their calendars, picking a good Saturday or Sunday. Shoot for the time period starting around October 23 – on through the end of the month. Plan your trip accordingly, check the weather and pick a good day when the sun is out. Because the colors look a lot better when there’s sunshine.”



Bags

Continued from Page A2

of the tax and 1 cent of every 5 cents collected in all subsequent years. She said the county intends to distribute reusable bags to at-risk communities over the next few months and conduct an education campaign with stakeholders.

Alexandria will use revenue from the plastic bag tax to increase outreach to low-income communities, according to Helen Lee, the environmental program manager at the city’s Department of Transportation & Environmental Services. She told The Center Square that funds will be used to distribute reusable bags to SNAP and WIC communities so they can avoid the tax.

The Center Square reached out to Fairfax County, but did not receive a comment by the time of publication.

Although those provisions will help somewhat, the policy will still have a negative impact on low-income shoppers and businesses affected by the rules, according to Kate Baker, the director of government affairs for the Virginia Retail Federation.

Regional taxes that only affect certain localities, Baker told The Center Square, will force businesses with multiple locations to manage different tax codes in different parts of the commonwealth. Some shoppers who live near city or county borders, she said, could factor the plastic bag tax into their decision on where to shop, which could negatively impact certain businesses.

Baker said the effect this will have on the economy is yet to be determined, but it could have a major impact on some businesses.

The ordinance also received criticism from Stephen Haner, a senior fellow for state and local tax policy at the free-market Thomas Jefferson Institute.

“Adding 20 or 30 cents to a grocery or convenience store bill clearly matters more to a low income family, which is also less likely to spend a few bucks to have its own reusable bags for

shopping,” Haner told The Center Square. “Advocates claim it means fewer of the bags ending up as litter on the streets or in streams, but one suspects the paper cups, plastic bottles and other trash will still be there.”

The new tax was made possible by legislation passed by the General Assembly last year, which allows localities to impose five-cent tax increases and gives them more leeway to impose other taxes. Democratic leaders, who have a majority in both chambers, supported increasing local tax authority, but it was opposed by Republican leaders.

In each locality, the tax will apply to single-use plastic bags common and grocery stores, convenience stores and drug stores. It will not apply to plastic bags intended to be reused or for plastic used to wrap items, such as meat, fish or unwrapped bulk food items. Bags used for dry cleaning and prescription drugs will also be exempt, as will bags sold in packages for garbage, pet waste or leaf removal.

Fashion show on tap to benefit Veterans Cemetery Volunteers

Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery Volunteers are having a Fashion Show, Monday, September 27 at 6:30 pm at the Lion’s Club Building in Dublin.

Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the door. Fashions presented by Ponnie’s Boutique and Gifts from Shawsville, VA, with local models, refreshments and door prizes.

All proceeds go to support the cemetery.

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LILLIAN BERNICE SARVER HAMBLIN

Lillian Bernice Sarver Hamblin ("Hay Hay"), 77, of Pulaski, Virginia went to be with the Lord on Monday, September 20, 2021, at Lewis Gale Hospital of Montgomery County.

She was born August 16, 1944, in Bland, Virginia. She was preceded in death by her parents; Charlie Isaac and Virginia Wilson Sarver; husband, Judas Hamblin; sons, James David Nelson, and Charles Daniel Nelson; and brother, Marvin Sarver.

She is survived by her daughter, Virginia May Smith, of Pulaski, VA; grandchildren Kimberley Smith and James David Nelson Jr., also of Pulaski; sister, Bernita Sarver Clark of Fairlawn, VA; Brothers, Donald Monroe Sarver, and wife Brenda, of Pearisburg, VA, and Charlie Melvin Sarver and wife Nona, of Fairlawn, VA; as well as many nieces and nephews.

A member of the Family Worship Center, Lillian loved attending church and singing in the choir. She loved and trusted the Lord, who was her strength. She enjoyed gardening, cooking, and canning. She was retired from Pulaski Furniture. She will be greatly missed.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, September 25, 2021, at 2:00 PM at Stevens Funeral Home in Pulaski with Rev. Jeff Wilhoite officiating. Burial will follow at Oakwood Cemetery in Pulaski. The family will receive friends from 1:00-2:00 PM prior to the service.

Stevens Funeral Home, Pulaski, VA is serving the Hamblin family. Online condolences can be made through www.stevensfuneralhomepulaski.com

MICHAEL RAY LOVERN

Michael Ray Lovern, formerly of Radford, Va. left his earthly home and gained his wings on Sept. 16, 2021. Born July 29, 1954, he was preceded in death by his mother, Imogene A. Lovern and his father, William T. Lovern.

Left to cherish his memory are his three sons, Tony Lovern, Dave Lovern and Kenny Lovern; seven brothers, Terry, Mark, Lloyd, Quinton, Chris, Aaron and Cody Lovern; seven grandchildren; several nieces and nephews, and special friend, Terry King of Florida.

Per Mike's request, arrangements are private.

Mike had a loving soul and will be sadly missed.



MINERVA GAYE LYONS FRAZIER

Minerva Gaye Lyons Frazier, age 70 of Pulaski passed away Saturday, September 18, 2021 at her home.

Born August 2, 1951 in Newbern, Virginia she was the daughter of the late Raymond Early Lyons, Sr. & Sarah Lucy Nester Lyons. She was also preceded in death by her husband of 49 years, Thomas Lloyd Frazier, daughter, Kimberly Fawn Frazier and sister, Charlotte Rosia Lyons Ellis.

She was a long-time nurse, working at the old Pulaski Hospital and the healthcare industry itself over 40 years. She was a member of Memorial Christian Church, Draper.

She is survived by her

Brothers – Raymond Early (Brenda) Lyons, Jr. – Christiansburg, Isaac (Joyce) Lyons – Pulaski

Sister – Janice Haynes – Christiansburg

Brother-in-law – Ronnie Lee (Teresa) Frazier – Abingdon

Sister-in-law – Emmy Lou Frazier – Pulaski

Like a daughter – Stephanie Miller – Pulaski

Several nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews

Private family services will be held at a later date at Newbern Cemetery.

To sign Gaye's online guestbook, visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com

Bower Funeral Homes, Pulaski is handling the arrangements for the family.

CLINTON F. PARNELL SR.

Clinton F. Parnell Sr. age 84, died peacefully at his home on September 21, 2021. Foster was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy I. Parnell, and his parents, Carl and Elva Parnell.

Foster was born in the Short's Creek area of Carroll County, Virginia on June 22, 1937. He was a long-time employee of Long-Airbox in Pulaski, Virginia.

Foster is survived by his daughter, Cindy Quesenberry, son, Clinton Parnell Jr., son, Nelson Parnell, and daughter, Michelle Parnell. He has seven granddaughters and many great grandchildren.

A graveside service with burial will be held on Friday, September 24, 2021, at 2:00PM at Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin, Virginia.

Stevens Funeral Home, Pulaski, VA is serving the Parnell family. Online condolences can be made through www.stevensfuneralhomepulaski.com



JOHNNIE RAY WEEKS

January 4, 1958

September 14, 2021

Johnnie Ray Weeks, 63, of Snowville, passed away Tuesday, September 14, 2021. He was a U. S. Army veteran. Johnnie was preceded in death by his father, Curtis Ray Weeks.

Survivors include his mother, Rosie Iva McPeak Weeks; sisters and brothers-in-law, Rose and Doug Yett, Roxane and Tim O'Donnell, and Lilly Bechtel; and many other relatives and friends.

Graveside services with full military honors were held Thursday, September 23, 2021 at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin.

The Weeks family is in the care of the Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory of Radford, Virginia. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com

TERESA LEIGH NESTER BOULDIN

Teresa Leigh Nester Bouldin, age 73 of Dublin passed away Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at her home. Born March 20, 1948 in Pulaski she was the daughter of the late Archie Wyatt Nester & Elizabeth Juanita Smith Hunter. She was also preceded in death by her brother, Kenneth Nester.

Teresa was a loving, caring person. She devoted her life to those she loved. Her son, John was her reason for living and she loved him dearly. She loved all genres of music and enjoyed talking with other people about music. She would laugh and say she could only play one instrument, the radio. She spent 41 years working in the medical profession and took great care of her patients. She will be remembered as a selfless person who always put others first.

She is survived by her

Son – John Heath Bouldin – Dublin

Sisters – Bonita Crisp – Pulaski, Lucinda Dalton – Ivanhoe, Linda St. Clair – Narrows

Special Niece – Christi Martin

Numerous cousins, nieces and nephews

Graveside funeral services will be held 11:00 AM – Friday, September 24, 2021 at the Highland Memory Gardens, Dublin with Bishop Rocky Dalton officiating.

To sign Teresa's online guestbook, visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com

Bower Funeral Homes, Pulaski is handling the arrangements for the family.



ERSELL WILLIAM ALDERMAN

September 2, 1936 – September 17, 2021

Ersell William Alderman, 85, passed away Friday, September 17, 2021 at his home in Dublin. He was a U.S. Army veteran and a member of Max Creek Baptist Church. He was a retired supervisor with Giffin Pipe. Ersell was preceded in death by his parents, Robert Lee and Pearl Ethel Alderman; and daughter, April.

Survivors include his loving wife of 56 years, Gloeda S. Alderman; sons, William David Alderman and fiancée, Pam of Dublin, Tony and Jill Alderman of Radford, and Kevlin Neal Alderman and Cheryl of Lynchburg; 9 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild on the way: brothers and sisters-in-law, Ray and Vicky Alderman of Salem, Bobby and Shirley Alderman of Merrimac, and Henry and Frances of Vinton; sisters, Betty Hanks of Christiansburg, and Patricia Buckland of Narrows; and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were Tuesday, Sept. 21 at Max Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Mike Coleman officiating. Graveside services with full military rites were held Wednesday, September 22, 2021 in the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Gideons International, PO Box 923, Radford, VA 24143 or to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-9959.

The Alderman family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com

HELEN "MAXINE" GREGORY HARLAN

Helen "Maxine" Gregory Harlan, 87, of Fredrikstad, Norway passed away just shy of her 88th birthday September 11, 2021. She was born September 17, 1933 in Pulaski, Virginia.

She was preceded in death by her parents; Forest and Nellie Gregory; husband, James Edward Harlan; son, Michael Harlan; and daughter, Valerie Harlan. She is survived by her son, Patrick Harlan of Fredrikstand, Norway (where she spent the last 2 years of her life); stepson Eric Harlan; and brother Samuel Gregory, Jr. of Pulaski, VA; grandchildren, Jess Rehman of Atlanta, GA, Todd and Jessica Gregory of Pulaski, VA, Stephen Gregory, also of Pulaski, VA; as well as great grandchildren.

Maxine grew up on Mt. Oliv-



RHONDA LYNN RADCLIFFE SUTPHIN (BUCKNER)

On September 14, 2021, Rhonda left her earthly home to join her Heavenly Father where there will be no pain. She was born to James Radcliffe & Ethel Radcliffe Boothe on July 22, 1960 in Radford, Virginia and will be reunited with them once again along with her sister Jill Dalton, Her niece Brandy Dalton Simmons, nephew Brad Radcliffe and a niece by marriage, Megan Radcliffe.

Rhonda's spirit and her love will remain on with her son Hunter Sutphin & his dad, Tim Sutphin who took care of Rhonda throughout her sickness and remained vigilant by her side till the end. She also leaves behind brothers, Mike (Debbie) Radcliffe, James (Missy) Radcliffe, niece Jessica McMillan & family, nephew Joey Radcliffe and daughters.

Rhonda's wishes will be carried out with no services.

"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God and trust also in Me. There is more than enough room in my Father's house. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with Me where I am"

John 14-13

"And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever"

Psalm 23:6

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et Road in Pulaski, VA and had fond memories of working at the Gregory family's country store as a girl. After high school Maxine attended and graduated Radford College, School of nursing. She then went onto practice nursing as a Registered Nurse for over 45 years working up and down the East Coast.

She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

PATSY "PAT" JAMES BOWLING

Patsy "Pat" James Bowling, 75, passed away at her home in Hiwassee on Wednesday, September 15, 2021.

The Bowling family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford, Virginia. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com.

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Bipartisan redistricting panel starts off with partisan maps

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (AP) — A new bipartisan redistricting commission is looking at two sets of distinctly partisan maps as it sets out to draw new boundaries for Virginia's General Assembly districts.

Democratic and Republican map drawers on Monday submitted their first statewide drafts of new maps for review by the commission as it embarks on the once-a-decade redistricting process required after the 2020 census.

The map makers were explicitly directed not to look at past election results in drawing the districts. Still, the maps submitted by the Democratic map drawer would give Democrats an advantage, while the GOP maps would do the opposite.

The Democratic maps would give Democrats a 55-45 advantage in the House of Delegates and a 21-19 advantage in the state Senate, using the 2016 presidential election — one of the closest recent statewide elections in Virginia — as a baseline measure of how voters cast their ballots.

The GOP maps would create a 50-50 split in the House and give

the GOP a 21-19 advantage in the state Senate, according to an AP review of data spreadsheets on the proposed new districts provided by the commission.

At Monday's meeting, commission members talked very little about the partisan differences in the maps, largely because they wanted the initial maps to be drawn without regard to partisan politics.

But they acknowledged that others are already looking at the maps through a partisan lens. And at some point, the maps must take election results into account, because that data is used to ensure that Black and minority voters are given a fair shot to elect candidates of their choice. If the lines needlessly pack excessive majorities of Black voters into a district, or if they crack Black voting blocs in separate districts to dilute their strength, the lines can be challenged in court on allegations of racial gerrymandering.

"We're trying to figure out how we're going to put these maps together," said Greta Harris, the Democratic co-chair of the commission.

Harris and Mackenzie Babi-

chenko, the GOP co-chair, asked the map drawers to do what they can on their own to start synthesizing their disparate maps, starting with some of the less controversial areas like heavily Republican southwest Virginia.

See MAPS, page A10

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Services My Office Provides

One of the important roles of any member of Congress is to serve as a liaison for his or her constituents to the federal government. Acting as that liaison or ombudsman rarely gets headlines or letters to the editor, but it is one of the most important things that I do. Accordingly, I want to share some of the services my office provides and the ways my team and I can assist you.

Constituent services are typically handled by members of my local staff at our district offices or during my staff traveling office hours, which are held in every area monthly. If you have questions or face any complications, our office can often intercede on a constituent's behalf to answer questions, find solutions, or cut through red tape with federal agencies such as the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Social Security Administration, the Department of Labor, Medicare, the Internal Revenue Service, and more.

We also can help constituents who are requesting or renewing passports, asking for the expedited processing of these documents, or dealing with issues involving travel visas. This has been more problematic as a result of COVID, so please don't hesitate to call early.

While we can offer much assistance, I would note that we are generally prohibited from becoming involved in legal matters or overriding decisions made by a federal agency.

An inquiry related to a federal matter can be opened on your behalf by contacting my office either by phone or website or attending traveling

staff office hours. They are held at least once each month in every area that doesn't have a bricks and mortar

office. Currently, our bricks and mortar offices are located in Abingdon and Christiansburg. During traveling staff office hours, you are also invited to share opinions regarding legislative matters. The monthly schedule of our visits to your area is posted on my website at the beginning of each month.

Regardless of which federal agency you may need help with, we will need your written authorization in order to comply with the provisions of the Privacy Act. Our privacy consent form can be found on my website or you may contact us by phone or mail to obtain the form. When returning this form to my team, you will want to include any pertinent information and claim numbers that might be needed. The form also asks that you summarize your issue with the federal agency to help ensure we understand exactly what assistance you are seeking.

Additionally, my staff can help navigate the process of applying for grants from the Federal Government or seeking a nomination to the U.S. Service Academies.

In Washington, we can usually set up tours of several national landmarks such as the Supreme Court, Bureau of Printing & Engraving, Library of Congress, and our most requested tours – the U.S. Capitol and the White House. However, due to COVID, some of the tours have been suspended. Many of these tours can be booked up months in advance, so contact my office as early as possible if you are planning a trip to the nation's capital. Our team can also give you a list of other popular attractions and museums you may want to add to your trip itinerary. So, please do not hesitate to contact my D.C. office with any questions or inquiries regarding your trip to the capital. My staff is here and happy to assist you.

Constituents can reach out to our office to purchase American flags—including ones flown over the Capitol. Also, a United States flag for burial purposes may be obtained from my office for a veteran's casket at no charge if you have a completed VA27-2008 form.

My office works hard to provide resources for the youth in the Ninth District. We offer internships in both my Washington, D.C. office and my district offices. Internships run throughout the fall, spring, or summer semesters for college students and provide invaluable work and hands-on experience. Further information about the internships can be found on my website. There is also an education kids page on my website to provide resources to the students that have an interest in learning more about American government.

It is my honor and privilege to serve you and assist in your interactions with the federal government. If I can help you, please contact us.

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, feel free to contact my office. You can call my Abingdon office at 276-525-1405 or my Christiansburg office at 540-381-5671. To reach my office via email, please visit my website at www.morgan-griffith.house.gov. Also on my website is the latest material from my office, including information on votes recently taken on the floor of the House of Representatives.



Morgan Griffith
9th District Representative

Did board, administration undermine parents?

The last 18 months or so have been trying for us all. Due to COVID-19, we have all had to make decisions regarding how to continue living our lives, safely. As families, we face difficult medical decisions, often with limited, inaccurate and evolving information and data. Of course, the most difficult medical decisions being those of parents regarding our children's health and safety.

In recent weeks, the Pulaski County School Board collaborated with the New River Health District to offer the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccination at Pulaski County High School and Pulaski County Middle School for children ages 12 and older. This vaccination is FDA approved for ages 16 and older and has an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for ages 12-15. Although the same vaccination, the EUA status offers liability protection for Pfizer should vaccine injury occur, related to vaccinations of children ages 12-15. In short, Pfizer has no legal responsibility should your child, age 15 or younger, experience side

Guest Column

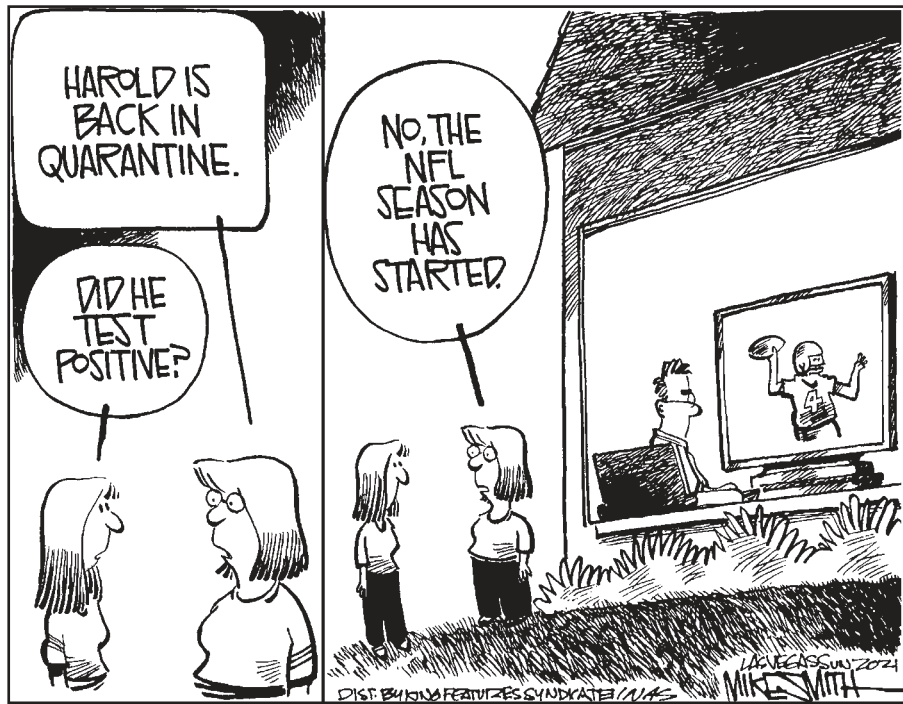
By Greg East

effects due to the vaccine.

Following the School Board decision regarding the vaccination drive, a letter was provided to students, along with a COVID-19 Vaccination-Student Consent and Screening form, requiring parental signature. In the letter, it stated, "In a recent meeting with our students we asked them what we could do to encourage them to get vaccinated and their reply was to give them a day off after getting vaccinated." I find this statement troubling for multiple reasons.

First, a medical decision regarding a child is solely the responsibility of the parent. It is not the function or respon-

See GUEST, page A7



An economic history lesson

By Cal Thomas,
Tribune Content Agency

Following the death of Mao Zedong, former president and founding father of the People's Republic of China, more than 40 years ago, his successor, Deng Xiaoping, instituted economic reforms that looked less like classic communism and more like capitalism. It didn't happen all at once, but gradually. The result was that millions of Chinese were lifted out of poverty.

As The Washington Post noted, "Under Deng's leadership, China abandoned the ideological structures of the past and embraced policies founded on practicality and experience. ... These policies unleashed the creative and entrepreneurial potential of the Chinese people and allowed China to break out of its self-imposed isolation."

Now comes current President Xi Jinping, who is conducting a war on private enterprise by reversing the economic successes China has enjoyed since reforms were instituted.

A Wall Street Journal examination of Xi's speeches and writings concludes the Chinese president believes "private capital now has been allowed to run amok, menacing the party's legitimacy. ... He is trying forcefully to get China back to the vision of Mao Zedong, who saw capitalism as a transitory phase on the road to socialism."

This has the whiff of Mao's Cultural Revolution. As history.com remembers: "Believing that current communist leaders were taking the party, and China itself, in the wrong direction, Mao called on the nation's youth to purge the 'impure' elements of Chinese society and revive the revolutionary spirit that led to victory in the civil war 20 years earlier..."

Following the revolution, a reporter for a Hong Kong political journal discovered classified statistics that said nearly 2 million Chinese were killed and another 125 million were either persecuted (including intellectuals and even people seen wearing glasses), or subjected to what were euphemistically called "struggle sessions."

President Xi has been working quietly to undermine China's economy. The Journal says he has generated "more than 100 regulatory actions, government directives

and policy changes since last year." His aim, it says, is to break the market dominance of companies, including e-commerce behemoth Alibaba Group Holding Ltd., among others.

During a meeting last month, Xi signaled plans to go even further, emphasizing a goal of "common prosperity."

Does this not sound like former President Barack Obama's pledge to "spread the wealth around" and attempts by President Biden and a Congress led by Democrats to increase taxes on the wealthy, including corporations which, when prospering, hire people who pay taxes, increasing government revenue?

In the cases of China and the U.S. -- when our government is run by Democrats -- ideology and party control trumps policy success. Some people prefer power to positive outcomes. It's all about control.

The policies of communists like Lenin, Stalin and Mao have caused millions of deaths, widespread poverty, and loss of individual freedom. The policies of John F. Kennedy (who cut taxes and was anti-communist), Ronald Reagan and, yes, Donald Trump, lifted many "boats," encouraging initiative and hard work and thus spreading prosperity around.

In the U.S., the prosperity unleashed by lower taxes and fewer regulations has proven to increase employment, raise wages and boost individual prosperity for those willing to work and take minimal risks, such as moving to states that provide better opportunities. Now Democrats are trying to sink the country in more debt, raise taxes, re-impose regulations, all in the name of "equity," "fairness" and taxing the rich so they will pay their "fair share," whatever that is.

Why do people never seem to learn these economic and political lessons? Perhaps it is because history is rarely studied, or if it is, it is re-written to reflect the ideology of the teachers, politicians and dictators.

Readers may email Cal Thomas at tcaeditors@tribpub.com. Look for Cal Thomas' latest book "America's Expiration Date: The Fall of Empires and Superpowers and the Future of the United States" (HarperCollins/Zondervan).



Rich Lowery

Editor,
National Review

Why Dems Can't Pay for Their Ambitions

Benjamin Franklin was right about death and taxes, but new taxes only become inevitable when a Democrat is elected president, and here we are.

The House Ways and Means Committee released an outline of tax proposals to offset President Biden's jaw-dropping spending plans, and it's the expected assortment of tax increases on business and the affluent that Democrats like to pretend can fund a social welfare state of the sort that Bernie Sanders has long pined and advocated for.

The individual tax rate would increase from 37% to 39.6%, the capital gains rate from 20% to 25%, and the corporate tax rate from 21% to 26.5 %, among sundry other provisions befitting the hideously complex U.S. tax regime.

It's a sign of the scope of Biden plans that the committee version represents a step back from his tax proposals, yet still clocks in at an enormous \$2.2 trillion in estimated new revenue over ten years.

The corporate taxes are particularly noxious. Democrats love the politics of taxing corporations, based on the lazy and wrongheaded idea that the corporate tax is the way to stick it to executives and shareholders. To the contrary, if businesses are taxed at a higher rate, they have less resources available the capital investments that improve worker productivity over time. This ultimately means lower wages for workers.

It is telling that no one is talking about going back up to the pre-Trump rate of 35%.

According to the Tax Foundation, a top corporate rate of 28%, the level that Biden favors, would once again give the U.S. the highest rate in the OECD at 32.3% once state level corporate taxes are factored in as well. France currently has the highest rate but is set to reduce it next year.

What's the sense in instantly making the business environment in the United States less favorable and giving a competitive advantage to foreign countries?

While the Way and Means draft rejects Biden proposals such as taking the capital gains rate all the way up to 39% (!), it does everything it can to try to hold anyone making less than \$400,000 harmless. As The Washington Post puts it, "The efforts are designed to avoid even the appearance of affecting middle- and lower-income households."

This is where the Democrats are willing to talk the talk about a cradle-to-grave welfare state, but not walk the walk. There can be no European-style welfare state, at least not sustainably so, without European-style taxes.

The dirty secret about the Scandinavian countries that the left constantly holds up as a model is that they aren't afraid to tax the middle class. These alleged models of social justice tax more than we do and tax much more broadly, realizing

See LOWRY, page A7



Guest

Continued from Page A6

sibility of the Pulaski County School Board or school administrators to encourage, convince or otherwise influence a child regarding what is clearly a parental decision to be decided based on a child's individual medical needs and history.

Second, offering a child an Activity Day or day-off from school with no make-up work, simply put, is a carrot. Intended to encourage a child to participate in or advocate for taking part in ... fill in the blank. In this case, it was a medical procedure. Even though public and administrative officials have stated that the day-off was to allow for possible adverse effects of the vaccination, all previously vaccinated children were included. Therefore, the stated reasoning does not ring true. This, in effect, created a punishment-reward system whereby a child is punished or rewarded based on the medical decision of the parent.

Most concerning, the administration, by advocating for and incentivizing a child to participate in the vaccination process, likely placed children at odds with their parents, created a classroom environment susceptible to peer pressure, and/or, in order to receive the reward, possibly encouraged children to participate in a medical procedure without their parent's knowledge or consent. After all, signatures on parental consent forms, unless notarized, are unverifiable in the absence of the parent.

The school sanctioned vaccination drive took place on September 16th and September 20th at PCHS and PCMS, respectively. Although, unable to obtain the number of children that were vaccinated, given the circumstances, it is my sincere hope that those who were, did so without the undue influences of peer pressure and with the consent of their parent.

The decision of the Pulaski County School Administration, supported by the Pulaski County School Board, to inject itself into the parental decision-making process regarding a medical procedure for a child was at best, ill-conceived and at worst, willful disregard for the parental role.

Greg East lives in Pulaski.

Lowry

Continued from Page A6

that taxing the rich and corporations isn't enough to fund extensive and generous social programs.

The Tax Foundation calculates that if the U.S. had a tax system comparable to Denmark, we would be taxing all income over \$70,000 at 55.9%, Denmark's top rate.

The Ways and Means tax hike would, sure enough, create Denmark-like rates. As Robert Frank of CNBC notes, the combined state and federal top tax rates in New York City would be 61.2%, in California 59.7%, and in New Jersey 57.2%. But the rates wouldn't reach down into the middle class. In fact, Democrats from high state taxes are determined to raise the cap on federal tax deductions for state and local taxes -- limited in Donald Trump's tax reform -- to reduce

Public education began with Puritans in 1642

Have you ever heard of “The Old Deluder Satan Act” of 1642 - 1647? It was the first public school law in America, established by the Puritans in Massachusetts, who believed that “the only source of authority was sacred scripture itself, which all people had to read for themselves in their own language.” <https://www.mass.gov/doc/old-deluder-satan-law/download>

The Puritans were emphatic that their citizens (children as well as servants) learn to read and understand the Bible for themselves, as it would serve as the ultimate source of moral and spiritual guidelines for all citizens. Their plan was to establish the Massachusetts Bay Colony as a community where Puritans could live according to their conception of God's will and serve as a model, "a shining city upon a hill," for the rest of the world to follow. Education would become a key part of that plan.

The Act began by stating: “It being one chief project of that old deluder, Satan, to keepe men from the knowledge of ye Scriptures, as to former time... (referring to Europe where they had fled religious persecution) ...” It was believed that less educated and less-informed citizens would be more likely to be tricked into sinning by the Devil.

To encourage colony-wide

education, the Act required every town with 50 or more households to hire and maintain a teacher to instruct all children in reading and writing. Towns of 100 or more households were required to support a grammar school which could prepare students to attend a college. This was at the expense of the of the citizens in the community. Both girls and boys from lower classes gained access to schooling and were expected to take advantage of it. Children typically spent six days per week in school, with the exception of summers, for up to seven years.

Additionally, the Act ensured the education of citizens in a trade by requiring “parents and masters...to bring up their children & apprentices in some honest lawful calling, labour or employment...or some other trade profitable for themselves and for the Common-wealth”

The belief that the Christian religion was to be part of all schools' curriculum was inculcated in constitutions when those territories desired to become states. For instance, the Northwest Ordinance, which was written at the same time Congress wrote the Amendments to the Constitution (August 1789), stipulated that for a territory to become a state, their schools must teach religion and morality

Right-to-work a big campaign issue

By Tyler Arnold

(The Center Square) – Right-to-work laws have been on the books in Virginia for nearly three-quarters of a century, but the two main candidates running to be the next governor hold opposing views on whether it should stay that way.

The current law has support from Republican nominee Glenn Youngkin, but is opposed by Democratic nominee Terry McAuliffe.

Virginia lawmakers passed the commonwealth's right-to-work law in 1947, which has protected workers from being forced to join a union or pay union dues as a condition of employment. The law effectively prohibits unions and employers from negotiating a contract that would require each worker to be a part of the union and prevents a person from losing

his job if he decides not to join it

In 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Janus v. AFSCME* that public sector workers could not be forced to join a union as a condition of employment, but the ruling did not address private sector workers, which means those laws remain a state issue.

According to a poll from last year, two-thirds of Virginians think the state should maintain its right-to-work protections, including a majority of Republicans, Democrats and independents. A lot of the efforts to repeal these laws have come from unions.

Youngkin has publicly said he supports keeping the state's right-to-work law.

"I'm going to protect right-to-work because if we lose right-to-work it's going to be the death knell for Virginia business," Youngkin said in a debate Thursday evening. "And my opponent

One Nation Under God

By Danielle Reid

as well as knowledge.

The Ohio state constitution (1802) stated: "Religion, morality and knowledge, being essentially necessary to the good government, and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of instruction shall forever be encouraged by legislative provision."

Widespread evidence of the belief that the Bible should be incorporated in public education can be observed, when in 1892, the Kansas Teachers' Union prepared a book detailing the history of education in America. They explained that education in America was nurtured by the church; but as the nation expanded, the church voluntarily relinquished elementary education to the state.

Their comments on that decision are astounding in today's culture. Here is what they said: "Whether this (decision) was wise or not is not (our) purpose to discuss, further than to remark that if the study of the Bible is to be excluded from all state schools, if the inculcation of the principles of Christianity is to have no place in the daily

program, if the worship of God is to form no part of the general exercises of these public elementary schools, then the good of the state would be better served by restoring all schools to church control."

You will not find these kinds of statements on the National Education Association's website.

So, you are thinking...that was a long time ago. Why is it relevant for today? For one thing, this Massachusetts Acts of 1642-47 and subsequent early Acts established several principles for public primary and secondary education. 1. That to maintain an orderly society and good government, Religion and morality need to be an integral part of the curriculum. 2. That basic education is a parental and community responsibility. In years past, parents were greatly influential in establishing what their children learned in the classroom. 3. That day-to-day responsibility for the operation of schools rests at the local level

Founding Father, Gouverneur Morris, who penned and signed the U.S. Constitution, sums it up well. "I believe that religion is the only solid base of morals and that morals are the only possible support of free governments. [T]herefore education should teach the precepts of religion and the duties of man towards God."

ia back in April

Del. Lee Carter, D-Manassas, introduced legislation earlier this year to repeal right-to-work, but it was defeated 83-13 in the Democratic-controlled House. The Virginia Senate, also under Democratic control, has never even held a vote on a repeal

John Kalb, the president of National Right to Work, told The Center Square that repealing right-to-work laws would obliterate the freedom of Virginia's pri-

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Inflation forces homebuilders to take it slow, raise prices

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Even in the hottest U.S. housing market in more than a decade, new home construction has turned into a frustratingly uncertain and costly proposition for many homebuilders.

Rising costs and shortages of building materials and labor are rippling across the homebuilding industry, which accounted for nearly 12% of all U.S. home sales in July. Construction delays are common, prompting many builders to pump the brakes on the number of new homes they put up for sale. As building a new home gets more expensive, some of those costs are passed along to buyers.

Across the economy, prices having spiked this year amid shortages of manufactured goods and components, from cars and computer chips to paint and building materials. The Federal Reserve meets this week and officials' outlook on when they might start raising interest rates could indicate how worried the Fed is about inflation.

The constraints on homebuilders are unwelcome news for homebuyers, already facing historically low levels of resale homes on the market and record prices. Economists worry many first-time homebuyers are getting priced out of the market. The ero-

sion in affordability is one reason the pace of home sales has been easing in recent months.

At Sivage Homes in Albuquerque, N.M., the builder's efforts to keep its construction on schedule are undercut almost daily by delays for everything from plumbing fixtures and windows, to bathtubs and appliances.

"Nowadays, we literally could be sitting waiting 30 days, maybe even 60, for one thing or another," said CEO Mike Sivage. "I've been doing this since 1986 and I have to say I've never seen anything like this before."

The pandemic set the stage for higher prices and shortages of construction products. Factories went idle temporarily and are now trying to catch up on production at the same time that demand has intensified due to an unexpectedly hot housing market and a surge in home remodeling.

Lumber futures jumped to an all-time high \$1,670 per thousand board feet in May. They've since dropped to \$634, about 10% higher than a year ago. Still, wholesale prices for a category of homebuilding components that includes windows, roofing tiles, doors and steel, increased 22% over the last 12 months, according to an analysis of Labor Department data conducted by the National Association of Home Builders. Before

2020, it was typical for such aggregate prices to rise a little over 1% annually.

Those conditions are likely to persist. Robert Dietz, chief economist at the NAHB, said he's heard from builders that "there are ongoing challenges, and in some cases growing challenges, with flooring, other kinds of building materials."

Meanwhile, any savings on lumber have yet to filter down to many builders, including Thomas James Homes, which operates in California, Washington state and Colorado.

"The price we're paying for lumber today is the same price we were paying 90 or 120 ago," said Jon Tattersall, the builder's president, who noted his company's overall building costs have increased about 30% since November.

Homebuyers shouldn't expect to see any discounts from falling lumber prices, either, because builders set their prices based largely on overall demand in the housing market.

A signed contract for a home yet to be built typically includes an allowance for unexpected construction costs, but generally builders will have to eat big increases and then pass them on to the next buyer.

"On our future ones, those are

the ones we're having to raise the costs on," Tattersall said.

Higher building materials prices aren't the only factor driving up builders' costs. A chronic shortage of skilled construction workers has worsened during the pandemic, forcing builders to factor in higher labor costs.

Inflation is being felt across the economy. Consumer prices rose 5.3% in August from the same month a year ago. At the producer level, inflation jumped an even steeper 8.3%, the biggest annual gain on record.

The Federal Reserve has said it believes the surge in inflation will be temporary. For now, though, the rise in building materials costs and the lingering supply crunch are making everything from houses and apartments to commercial buildings more expensive.

To manage, many builders are slowing the rollout of new homes. Zonda Economics, a real estate data tracker, estimates some 85% of builders are intentionally limiting their sales.

"They're trying to make sure they have the land ready, the workers ready and the materials ready to be able to actually deliver the homes that they've sold," said Ali Wolf, Zonda's chief economist.

Even with inflation, builders are benefiting from the hottest housing market in years. Demand for new homes has strengthened, while the number of previously occupied U.S. homes up for sale has fallen to historic lows, pushing prices higher.

The median price of a new home sold in July climbed 18.4% from a year earlier to \$390,500,

an all-time high, according to the Commerce Department. For existing homes, the median price jumped 17.8% in July to \$359,900, according to the National Association of Realtors.

Builders typically hire contractors who handle framing, electrical, plumbing and other facets of construction. As these firms have faced higher costs to secure skilled labor or source the materials they need to do their job, they've had to pass those increases onto builders.

Tri Pointe Homes, which builds homes in 10 states, including California, Texas and Maryland has faced higher labor costs. It's been working through those increases, at times moving beyond its core group of contractors, said CEO Doug Bauer.

One way Tri Pointe and other builders are dealing with product delays is to ask contractors to install temporary fixtures and appliances, for example, so that buyers can move in as quickly as possible.

"Then, as soon as the original item becomes available, we are returning to install it," Bauer said.

To stay ahead of rising costs, Tri Pointe has raised its home prices and reduced buyer incentives when necessary. Even so, the builder has raised its guidance on the number of homes it expects to deliver this year from 6,000 to 6,300.

While the big, publicly traded builders have the means to buy building materials and warehouse them until needed, smaller builders that make up the majority of the industry are at the mercy of suppliers.

Issue

Continued from Page A7

vate sector workers and threaten economic opportunity and job growth.

"The next governor of Virginia must defend Commonwealth workers' right to resist funding union officials they oppose and uphold the Commonwealth's 74 year old Right to Work Law," Kalb said in an email. "Big Labor has been unabashedly throwing money around this election cycle in pursuit of gaining forced-dues privileges in the state, and any politician who prioritizes Big Labor's influence over workers' individual rights is not fit to lead the state."

Jaime Contreras, the vice president of 32BJ SEIU and head of the union in Virginia, told The Center Square that right-to-work laws allow non-union members to freeloader by taking advantage of the union negotiations without paying any union dues. The SEIU union has endorsed McAuliffe for governor.

"We wholeheartedly support the effort to repeal the right-to-work laws in Virginia and around the country," Contreras

said in an email. "These duplicitous laws should really be called right-to-freeloader laws, because they allow nonunion employees to enjoy union benefits without paying dues. It's like enjoying all the benefits of citizenship — from paved roads to national defense — without paying a cent in taxes. Virginians, and all Americans, are raised better than that."

Democratic lawmakers did successfully pass union-friendly legislation after gaining a majority, which allows local governments to write ordinances that permit public sector collective bargaining rights within their jurisdiction. McAuliffe has said he wants to have broader collective bargaining rights. Supporters of collective bargaining argue that it leads to better pay and benefits for workers, but opponents say it increases costs that have to be paid by taxpayers.

Early voting for the governor's race began Friday and election day is Nov. 2. Most polls are currently showing McAuliffe with a very narrow lead on Youngkin.

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September 2021

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**Fri. Sept. 10th: Sister Virginia (Ginger) Riggins
Sat. Sept. 11th: Sister Barbara Kidd**

**Fri. Sept. 17th: Evangelist Steve Board
Sat. Sept. 18th: Brother Harley Phillips
NOTE: Food / Clothing Event 11 am until 1 pm. We will be serving Free Grilled Cheese Sandwiches, Chips, Dessert and Drinks. The Clothing Bank will be open with Free Men's, Women's, Boys and Girls Clothing.**

**Fri. Sept. 24th: Sister Judy Gregory
Sat. Sept. 25th: Ministers Pat & Bennie Bedsaul**

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For More Information Contact: Charlie Barbettini : 276.620.4293

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September 25

Benefit for Charles Talbert to be held

There will be a benefit held for Charles Talbert on Sat., Sept. 25, 3 p.m. – 7 :00 p.m. at the New Village Church located at 3880 Pulaski Giles Turnpike in Staffordsville, Va. 24167. A spaghetti dinner will be served from 3 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.. Preaching from 4:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. ; then between 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. Henry Brickley will be concert. All proceeds go to Talbert. Everything is by donation. Come out and show your support for Charlie who has done so much for the people in our community.

Class of 1981 40th reunion

Class of 1981 40th reunion, Sept 25th Thorn Spring Golf Club. RSVP via Alumni website or FB PCHS Class of 81 group page. Pass the word to other classmates...

October 2

3rd Annual Combined Hiwassee/Allisonia Day

Pavilion behind Harry O'Dell

Park in Hiwassee, Virginia Saturday, October 2, 2021 High Noon until ends!! Everyone is welcome to attend, friends and extended family! We hope to see you all there, please be sure to extend the invite to all old friends and neighbors. Paper products, plastic ware, and ice will be supplied. Bring any food dishes, desserts, drinks, you and your family. plus any memorabilia. We will be taking up donations to help pay for the johnny blue and mailings. Bring a chair and your pick, for a little picking and grinning good time.. Contacts are Viva Ousley 540-315-0070 or Jackie Farris 540-980-1519 October 4

Coats for Kids

Monday and Tuesday October,4-5, 2021, 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. Radford Clothing Bank located at 2000 West St., Radford (near Bissett Park) Clean, gently-used coats for your school-age children at no cost to you. These two days are specially set aside for you to come and choose a coat and other warm winter wear for your school-age children. We encourage you to bring your child to assure a good fit. Appointments are not neces-

Happenings at the Pulaski Community Youth Center

Pop up Market

We are excited to be offering the Pop up Market! October 16th 10:00 am-2:00 pm we are inviting vendors to come to the Youth Center to sell their items they make. Non- Profits are invited as well to spread the word about their organization. If you are a vendor please contact Samantha at samanthapcyc@yahoo.com or call 540-505-4973 to secure your spot. Vendors will be mentioned on our Facebook page, website and any press releases we do. The fee for a vendor is \$25.00. You can be inside or weather permitting outside. Christian Catering will be offering their famous BBQ Pork.



with families coming together to enjoy a tasty meal prepared with in a wise budget. Parents learn Budgeting wisely, avoid big spending, celebrate the holidays without over spending, relax and experience your child's independence. Kids will learn food safety, how to prepare a healthy meal and enjoy family mealtime.

Cost \$10.00 for everyone. Space is limited sign up today by email samanthapcyc@yahoo.com or call 540-731-4401

Pulaski Community Youth Center 6671 Riverlawn Court Fairlawn VA 24141

Get ready for the Holidays

September 28th (Tuesday)
5:30 pm-8:30 pm

An evening of learning and celebration for your family to prepare for the holidays together. Kids learn to make a healthy meal while parents learn tips to manage money. Culminating

TOP TEN VIDEO, DVD for release week of Sept. 20

1. The Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard (R) Ryan Reynolds
2. 12 Mighty Orphans (PG-13) Luke Wilson
3. A Quiet Place: Part II (PG-13) Emily Blunt
4. Peter Rabbit 2: The Runaway (PG) Rose Byrne
5. Snake Eyes: G.I. Joe Origins (PG-13) Henry Golding
6. Wrath of Man (R) Jason Statham
7. Those Who Wish Me Dead (R) Angelina Jolie
8. Stillwater (R) Matt Damon
9. Space Jam: A New Legacy (PG) LeBron James
10. No Man of God (NR) Elijah Wood

DVD, Blu-ray Sales

1. The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It (R) Warner Bros.
2. The Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard (R) Lionsgate
3. Peter Rabbit 2 (PG) Sony Pictures
4. Spirit Untamed (PG) Universal/Dreamworks
5. In the Heights (PG-13) Warner Bros.
6. Mortal Kombat Legends: Battle of the Realms (R) Warner Bros.
7. Luca (PG) Disney/Pixar
8. A Quiet Place: Part II (PG-13) Paramount
9. Space Jam (PG) Warner Bros.
10. Godzilla vs. Kong (PG-13) Warner Bros.

Source: Comscore/Media Play News

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sary, families will be seen in the order they arrive. Questions? Call the Radford Clothing Bank at 540-633-5050 or send a message through our Facebook page.

October 7

American Legion to meet in Radford

The American Legion, Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will meet on Thursday, October 7, 7pm at the VFW Post Home in Radford. For further information, please call 250-2283 or 239-9864.

October 9

Dublin Moose Riders host ride for own

The Dublin Moose Riders #2360 will host a benefit ride for Mike and Lee Wolfe of Dublin who were hurt in a motorcycle accident recently. The ride will be held on Saturday, Oct. 9, kickstands up at 12 noon (bikes, cars and trucks are also welcome). Registration for the ride will begin at 11 a.m. at the Dublin Moose Lodge located at 5700 Bagging Plant Rd., Dublin. There will a 50/50 drawing, raffles and door prizes. Food will be served after the ride. The band Ride'n Shotgun will play 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. Please join us and support Moose Riders. ALL BY DONATION! Brothers and sisters supporting their own. Lending a helping hand.

Porch Concert

The Kellams will be singing, Sat., October 9, 5-6 PM. at First Dublin Presbyterian Church ECO.

Oct. 12

Sons of Confederate Veterans to meet

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet on Tuesday, October 12, 7pm at Aly's Family Italian Restaurant on 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to this meeting. For further information, please call 320-4315 or 239-9864.

Oct. 15

Crafts Fair

First Dublin Presbyterian Church ECO will hold a crafts fair on Oct. 15-16 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Nov. 6

Church Prayer – Hymn Sing

First Dublin Presbyterian Church ECO will hold a church prayer / hymn sing from 5:30 – 7 p.m.

ONGOING:

VHM Beginning Hispanic Service

Valley Harvest Ministries, in Dublin on the hill across from Walmart, is holding an Hispanic service each Sunday at 6 p.m. in the church's coffee shop.

United Daughters of the Confederacy

Attention all of you Southern Ladies! The United Daughters of the Confederacy, the Milton Hall Harmon Chapter is looking for new members. We meet on the second Saturday of the month. If you would like to become a member or would like more information, please contact us by email to plymouthrock16@yahoo.com.

Hiwassee Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary in Need of Funds

The Ladies Auxiliary of Hiwassee is in need of donations for the mowing and upkeep of the Trail cemetery in Hiwassee. If you have a family member buried in the cemetery and would like to make a donation you may send a check payable to Peggy Cregger, (Treasurer of the Ladies Auxiliary) @ PO Box 164 Hiwassee VA 24347. Thank you in advance for helping our organization!

Still distributing food

Heritage Cares Food Pantry at Heritage Church is still distributing food on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The church is located a half-mile past the New River Valley Airport on Route 100 north of Dublin.

Alcohol Anonymous

Alcohol Anonymous meet Mondays at 8 p.m. (closed meeting); Wednesday (noon) and Thursday at 8 p.m. (open meetings) at Pulaski Presbyterian Church of America located at 975 Memorial Drive. Contact number is 540-440-0066. Note: At present time masks are required and social distancing observed.

Pulaski Al-Anon Family Group

Pulaski Al-Anon Family Group (a support group for friends and families of alcoholics) meet every Monday night at 8 p.m. at Pulaski Presbyterian Church of America located at 975 Memorial Drive. Contact number 540-818-0621. Note: At present time masks are required and social distancing is observed.

Do You or Someone You Know Need Mental/Behavioral Health Help?

Appalachian Telemental Health Network (ATHN) is a state-funded resource for people in Virginia who are seeking mental/behavioral health help. Sessions are held over a HIPAA secure video session with a professional. The prior eliminates barriers of time, distance, and provider scarcities. The process is streamlined, making it easy to use the platform as a provider and/or patient. Appalachian Telemental Health Network was designed to create better access for the underserved Appalachian counties of Virginia. ATHN welcomes providers, referral streams, and people seeking help. If you or someone you know needs help, do not hesitate. Appalachian Telemental Health Network is an available resource. Visit our website location to sign up: www.athn.us.

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The Lord your God is with you wherever you go.....Joshua 1:9

Maps

Continued from Page A5

where there is little difference between the mapmakers' proposals.

Voters approved creation of the redistricting commission in a referendum last year, hoping for a process that would end partisan and racial gerrymandering that has plagued past redistricting efforts. So far, though, partisanship has remained part of the process. The commission hired Democratic and Republican map drawers because it could not agree on a single, nonpartisan entity.

The new process is also expected to create more competitive districts. Whether the maps submitted thus far achieve that goal is debatable. According to an analysis by the nonpartisan Virginia Public Access Project, the number of competitive Senate districts would increase from six to seven under both the Democratic and GOP maps.

But the number of competitive House districts would shrink from 21 to 18 under the Democratic plan and 21 to 15 under the GOP plan.

VPAP defined a competitive district as one with no more than a 10-point advantage for either party, again using the 2016 presidential election as a baseline.

The commission is required under state law to submit a single set of maps to the General Assembly by Oct. 10 for an up-or-down vote. If the legislature rejects the commission's maps, the task will fall to the state Supreme Court.

All 50 states are engaged in redistricting after the release of census data earlier this year, but Virginia is one of several doing so under newly created commissions. Other states with new redistricting commissions are also struggling to purge partisan politics from the process.



Dave Says

Dave Ramsey

Zero-based budgeting

Dear Dave,

I have a good job and make pretty good money, but I'm tired of always worrying about my finances and being strapped for cash at the end of the month. I've heard you talk about getting out of debt and living on a zero-based budget, but what exactly is a zero-based budget?

Edward

Dear Edward,

The concept of a zero-based budget is simple: income minus outgo equals zero. If you bring home \$4,000 a month, you want everything you spend, save, give and invest to equal \$4,000. That way, you know where every one of your dollars is going. Not knowing where the money's going is what kills lots of people's financial dreams. They think they know how much they're spending and where it's going, but they really don't.

Here's how you do it. List all your income sources for the month. Your income should include paychecks, small-business income, side jobs, residual income, child support and so on. If it's money that comes into your household's bank account, write it down and add it up.

Next, list every single expense you have each month. Rent, food, cable, phones and everything in between. Your expenses vary from one month to the next, and this is why you make a new budget each month. Your giving budget might be high in December when Christmas rolls around. The car budget will spike during months when you pay insurance or renew your tags. Focus on one month at a time.

Now, subtract your expenses from your income. Ideally, this number will be zero. It might take a few months of practice, so don't worry if it doesn't balance out immediately. If it doesn't, it just means you need to do something to bring one of the numbers up, the other one down—or both. If you're spending more than you make, you need to make some cuts in your spending. If you need

to generate more money, get a part-time job or sell a bunch of stuff.

The deal with a zero-based budget is this: every dollar must have a name. That means every dollar has a designated job to do. If you fill out every item in your budget and come out \$100 ahead—meaning you have nothing for that \$100 to do—you haven't finished your budget. You have to find a job for that \$100. It's your decision what it does, but if you don't give it a name and purpose, you'll end up blowing it and wondering where it went.

Good luck, Edward!

* Dave Ramsey is a seven-time #1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 18 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.

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PET OF THE WEEK

Boone is a male 1-2 year old Husky mix. High energy! Will need a meet/greet with any dogs in the home. He will still need to be neutered and brought up to date on his rabies vaccine.

If you are interested in Boone or any of our animals here at the shelter, please submit an application which can be found on our FaceBook page-Pulaski County VA Animal Control



Once your application is approved, you will be contacted and a time will be made available for you to do a meet and greet.

Monday-Friday

10AM-4PM and 10AM-12Noon on Saturday

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For More Information:

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Location will be provided upon registration
Please Call to Register:
Virginia Cooperative Extension - Laura Reasor
Family and Consumer Science Agent
540-980-7761
lreasor@vt.edu



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Bobcats fall to Galax in OT

By ELIZABETH KANIPE
The Patriot

The Radford Bobcats were looking to stay undefeated Friday night but the Maroon Tide of Galax had other ideas. Galax came to Radford with a 2-1 record coming off a close win over Carroll County. The Bobcats were 3-0 after a convincing win over Ft Chiswell.

Radford took command immediately. Ray Brubeck took the opening kickoff from the 10 and returned it to the 39 yard line. After two short pass completions, Marcell Baylor handed the ball off to Tyrel Dobson who hit paydirt on a 46 yard run with 11:01 left in the 1st qtr. Vance Steele hit the extra point to make the score 7-0.

Galax took possession on the kickoff and ground out a 14 play drive that resulted in an Ian Ashworth 1 yard plunge. Key plays were two passes from Ashworth to Mason Cox for 41 yards and Kale Carter and Tyreek Tucker also with several strong runs.

After both teams took their opening drives for TDs, the defenses adjusted and held each team to several 3 and out series trading field positions. The Bobcats broke through when Baylor hit TJ Aursby 40 yards through the air at the Galax 35. With his defender on the ground Aursby coasted the rest of the way for a 73 yard TD. Steele missed the extra point wide left which turned out to be a critical miss. The Bobcats led 13-7 with 7:01 remaining in the half.

See BOBCATS, page B3

Cougar golfers compete at district match

Blacksburg easily won the River Ridge District golf Match Monday at Thorn Spring Golf Course in Pulaski.

David Zhang was medalist for the match, shooting a 67 on the Par 72 course.

Blacksburg shot a team score

of 285, followed in second by Salem with a 311. Other team scores were Hidden Valley, 313; Patrick Henry, 325; Cave Spring, 340; Pulaski County, 341 followed by Christiansburg with no team score.

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Brian Bishop/The Patriot

Winless But Improving

Pulaski County's varsity volleyball team battled Blacksburg Tuesday. The winless Cougars are in the midst of a rebuilding year, but they are showing consistent improvement. Here, (top photo) Hannah Keef-er places the ball over a Blacksburg defender. (Bottom photo) Lacie Armes returns a serve during their match against Blacksburg High School.

Campbell Moore's 79, the third sub-80 round for him of late, noted coach Larry Thomas.

Noah Burchett shot an 85, which was his lowest score at TSGC. Thatcher Singleton's 79 was his career best.

"Brayden Boyd has worked really hard lately and earned his first varsity start today," Thomas added.

Pulaski County plays in the regional tournament Monday at Hidden Valley and Salem.

Team and Individual Scores:

Blacksburg HS.....	285
David Zhang.....	67
Jake Albert.....	72
Samantha Skinner...	72
Pierce Campbell....	74
Sean Ryan.....	76
Eli Haile.....	83
Salem HS.....	311
Kathryn Ha.....	75

Taylor Davis...	77
Macy Johnson....	79
Trey Joyce...	80
Andrew King.....	87
Hunter Rea.....	89
Hidden Valley HS.....	313
Harrison Withers....	69
Richard Hearp....	79
Emerson Bartlett....	82
Graydon Bartlett....	83
Tanner Whitely....	91
Brady Bartlett....	93
Patrick Henry.....	325
Tommy Fitchett....	79
Jack Faulkner....	80
Sam Dowdy.....	83
Maxwell Stevens....	83
Bass Beasley....	87
Durbin Stevens....	88
Cave Spring.....	340
Nate Faulkner....	75
Owen Bright.....	76
Precilia Kinsley....	94
Drew Harder....	95

See GOLF, page B10

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ACC Age Gap:

Super seniors, early enrollees create challenges

By PETE IACOBELLI
AP Sports Writer

Clemson linebacker James Skalski sees nothing odd about staying in college, no matter how many seasons he's been with the Tigers.

Skalski, 23, is among the group of sixth-year "Super Seniors," who have taken advantage of redshirt rules — and the NCAA allowing athletes to extend their eligibility due to the COVID-19 pandemic last year — to continue their athletic college careers, in some cases, well beyond graduation.

"Yes, some guys were in high school and, yes, (Clemson freshman) Jeremiah Trotter was 13 when I took my first snap," Skalski said. "That stat is weird to me."

It's a twist for Power Five leagues, including Atlantic Coast Conference programs. ACC schools have players ranging from their mid-20s to top-prospect teenagers — some who gave up part of their final high school years to get an early jump on college careers.

"It's unique," North Carolina State coach Dave Doeren said. "And as far as I can tell, it'd be hard to have a player like this."

Such an age spread can be a blessing or a curse. Newcomers have instant mentors who can lead them to success — or those who expected to play can become despondent and dent team chemistry.

"Locker rooms," CBS Sports analyst Kevin Carter said, "are a den of wolves."

Carter was an All-American defensive lineman at Florida in the early 1990s who played 14 seasons in the NFL. He understands the appeal for older college players accustomed to vital roles wanting to continue.

The problems, Carter said, arise with rising sophomores or juniors who have already worked and sweated three or four years awaiting their shot, but instead find themselves back on the bench.

"There are adverse affects on the team," he said.

Virginia offensive lineman Ryan Nelson, in his fifth year, understands how intimidating this season's new normal is.

"You see certain guys on the team and they've been starting games in college football since dude was a freshman in high school, or in middle school," he said. "Crazy to think about."

Coaches have expanded efforts to ensure harmony despite the gap.

Pitt coach Pat Narduzzi, like most head coaches, uses a leadership council of trusted, usually older players, to take the temperature of his team and maintain camaraderie.

He said there's a leader on the council from each position group "in charge of making sure everything sticks together."

North Carolina coach Mack Brown said flatly, "We have a real divide between old and young."

Frustrations rise among young players, he said, who often come in with swagger and high school clippings about how good they'll be in college. Then comes training camp, endless film study and college classes.

Brown has told his older players to treat younger teammates like their brothers and "even bet-

See AGE, page B5

Yard Sales

Big Yard Sale: At Aldersgate UMC in Pulaski, Friday and Saturday, Oct. 1 and 2 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Collectibles, household goods, clothing and lots of miscellaneous items. Sausage biscuits, hot dogs and baked goods available.

Fall Garage Sale: Fri., Sept. 24, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Sat., Sept. 25, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Directions: I81 South at Exit 86 left across bridge, right onto Topaz, go about 1 mile to 280 Pleasant Pine, Dr. Subdivision in Max Meadows. Antique dishes. Knives, old milk cans, treadmill, antique highchair, books, everything must go.

Garage Sale: Fri. & Sat., Sept. 24-25, 8 a.m. - ?; 6274 Stone Ridge Dr., Dublin. Boyd's Bears, Longaberger baskets, TV, DVD/VHS combo player, ladies plus size clothing, lots of boys clothes and some men's clothes. Rain or Shine.

Yard Sale: Fri & Sat., Sept. 24 -25 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. 1308 Willow Ave., Pulaski. Tools; AC's; vacuum, patio furniture; kerosene heaters; fancy dog house; picnic table and many miscellaneous items.

Final Indoor Yard Sale: Oct. 2, 8 a.m. - 11 a.m., 158 N. Washington Ave., Pulaski. At the corner of Main St., next to Edward Jones and Glenn Insurance. Clothing, collectibles, household/kitchen items, office, furniture, coins, ammo, firearms and much more!

Flea Market: Every Saturday now through October. 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Commerce Street in Pulaski. Vendors selling personal items. No charge to set up.

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Bobcats

Continued from Page B1

The Maroon Tide attempted to answer the Bobcats touchdown but on the 3rd play of the next drive, Ashworth fumbled the snap and Radford's Ricky Bailey recovered on the Galax 31. The Bobcat's didn't waste the opportunity and after a short run and a penalty, Baylor made two consecutive 17 yard runs for a Bobcat TD. Steele's PAT was good for a 20-7 lead.

Galax again tried to respond to the Bobcats TD. Led by a Ronny Horton 39 yard run and a 19 yard pass completion to Luke Belcher, the Maroon Tide got to first and goal with under a minute left. After two short runs by Horton and an incomplete pass, Galax connected on a 28 yard field goal by Josiah While to cut Radford's lead to 20-10.

Statistically the teams were close after the first half. Radford had 214 total yards to Galax's 178. The biggest difference was the turnover giving the Bobcats a short field to score. The second half would not go Radford's way.

Galax came out looking to make something happen on their first drive. After two runs with no gain, Nate Wesley sacked Ashworth forcing Galax to punt. A Bobcat unsportsmanlike penalty on the punt return pinned Radford deep at their own 9. The Bobcat offense was unable to move the ball and was forced to punt. Steele was able to hit a 61 yard rocket that helped flip field position. On 3rd and 6, Galax's Horton ran the ball up the mid-



Elizabeth Kanipe/The Patriot

#22 Tyrel Dobson, #55 Brandon Thompson, #77 Ricky Bailey, #59 Dawson Martin - Bobcats defense stood tall throughout the game.

dle and gained yardage for the first down but Radford's Dobson stripped the ball loose and Max Kanipe was there to recover for the Bobcats at the Maroon Tide 37.

Baylor was able to break a run to the 24 but was called for an unsportsmanlike penalty and the ball was moved back to the 39. After a 7 yard loss and two incomplete passes, the Bobcats had to punt. Steele punted the ball where it was downed at the Galax 3 yard line but a procedure penalty forced a rekick. Galax took advantage of the mistake - Ashworth caught the kick at the 17 and returned it to the 42 netting

the Maroon Tide 39 yards.

Galax's Kale Carter dominated the next drive rushing for a total of 61 yards, finishing with a 29 yard TD run. White hit the extra point, pulling the Maroon Tide within 3. On the ensuing kickoff, Baylor caught the ball at the 16, fumbled it during the return, where Galax's Brody Robinson recovered and returned it to the Radford 14. Ashworth was dropped for a 6 yard loss by Charlie Davis to start the drive. After an incomplete pass, Ashworth handed off to Carter and he took it 20 yards for the TD, giving Galax it's first lead of the game. White

See BOBCATS, page B10

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Pulaski County Board of Supervisors intends to hold a public hearing beginning at 7:00 p.m., or soon thereafter as can be heard, on Monday, September 27, 2021, in the Supervisors Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, N.W., Suite 1 in the Town of Pulaski to receive citizens' comments on the following matter:

a) Adoption of an ordinance setting the required deadlines of reassessment

Comments may be presented orally or in writing via mail to above address, fax (540-980-7717), or e-mail to bos@pulaskicounty.org. A copy of the ordinance is available for public inspection from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW, in the Town of Pulaski or by phoning (540) 980-7705.

If you are a disabled individual and would like special auxiliary aids or services, please contact the County's ADA Compliance Officer at (540) 980-7800 (TDD accessible) or (540) 980-7705, ten (10) days prior to the above meeting date.

LEGAL NOTICE



Town of Pulaski Invitation To Bid (ITB)

Water Storage Tank Rehab Will Consist of Cleaning, Pressure Washing and Sandblasting the Interior and Exterior Walls, Repair All Deficiencies, Recoat, Disinfect The Interior of All Tanks Using AWWA-Approved Disinfection Method.

General

The Town of Pulaski is seeking seal bids from qualified contractors to provide professional construction services for the rehab of five (5) water storage tanks that range from 1,000,000 gallons to 20,000 gallons

Questions and bid documents may be obtained from Rick Tawney, Project Engineer, 540-994-8618 or rtawney@pulaskitown.org.

A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting is scheduled for **10:30 AM, October 12th, 2021** in the Council Chambers located at 42 1st Street NW Pulaski, VA. 24301

The Respondent's bid for construction services must include the following:

Project Name, contractor's license or certificate number and date delivered. All bids must be received by **3:00 pm EST, October 22nd, 2021**. Sealed bids received after stated time and date will not be accepted.

The Town is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The Town does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, or national origin or against faith-based organizations.

LEGAL NOTICE



Public Hearing

The Town Council of the Town of Pulaski, Virginia will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, October 5, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Pulaski Municipal Building, 42 First Street, NW to consider the following:

- A proposed amendment to Section 5.3.3, Table 2: Off-Street Parking Space Requirements for Multi-family Residential Use to change the parking requirements to One (1) space per unit for one bedroom apartments, One and a Half (1½) spaces per unit for two bedroom apartments, and Two (2) spaces per unit for three bedroom apartments with an additional parking space requirement to equal ten percent (10%) of the total unit count.

All persons desiring to comment on the proposed requests should submit their remarks to Brady Deal, Planner/Economic Developer, by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 5, 2021, to 42 First Street, NW/ PO Box 660, Pulaski, VA or via email to bdeal@pulaskitown.org. A copy of the application and other pertinent materials are available for public review in the Planner/Economic Developer's office, Pulaski Municipal Building, 42 First Street, NW from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For disabled individuals who may require special auxiliary aids or services, reasonable accommodations will be made by the Town upon request. Please contact the Town Manager's Office at (540) 994-8600 prior to the above meeting date. For persons with hearing or visual difficulties, contact Virginia Relay at 711 to arrange contact with the Town.

LEGAL NOTICE



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The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Christiansburg Residency which includes the counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski during the winter of 2021-2022. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a mobilization payment.

Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at <https://www.plow4va.com/>. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://eva.virginia.gov>).

Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 24, 2021 may be eligible for a mobilization bonus. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.

Questions can be directed to the Christiansburg Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Phone: 540-381-7201 Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov

EEO/AA Employer

2021 Pulaski County Cougars



Aiden Moore - 62



Alan Fernandez - 54



Alex Hanks - 28



Alex Warden - 20



Andrew Conley - 17



Austin Malott - 56



Austin McNeil - 26



Braylon Foster - 9



Brett Jones - 15



Caleb Yelton - 10



Cam Cooper - 1



Chase Lawrence - 45



Chris Gallimore - 14



DeMarcus Hayden - 58



Diego Turner - 53



Duncan Umberger - 51



Ethan Clark - 75



Evan Alger - 65



Felipe Aguilar - 57



Gavin Lytton - 61



Hunter Hill - 16



JJ Gulley - 5



Jack Johnson - 52



Jack Allen - 50



John Lyman - 4



Johnny Anderson - 18



Kai Hodge - 23



Keyontae Kennedy - 7



Nathan Pratt - 21



Nicholas Woolwine - 24

FRI DAY NIGHT IS HOMECOMING
Pulaski County vs. Cave Spring
Kenneth J. Dobson Stadium - 7 p.m.



Noah Hinkley - 70



Nolan Dalton - 78



Rylan Tibbs - 73



Sean Wines - 63



Tanner Mace - 19



Tre Hayden - 60



Trevor Burton - 3



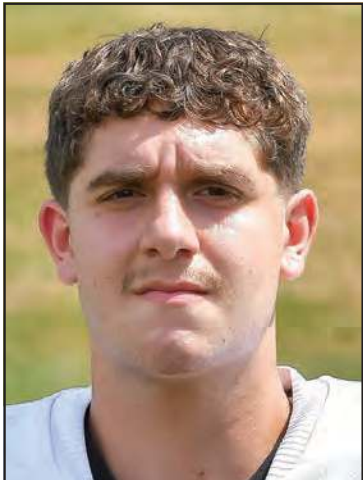
Trevor Gallimore - 22



Trevor Wright - 64



Trey Landreth - 11



Tyler Sutherland - 55



Tyler Underwood - 6



Wyatt Fryor - 30



Zach Gallimore - 12



Zach Huff - 31



Zach Parker - 8



Head Coach Mark Dixon



Buddy Ratcliff, Asst. Coach



Chris Castle, Asst. Coach



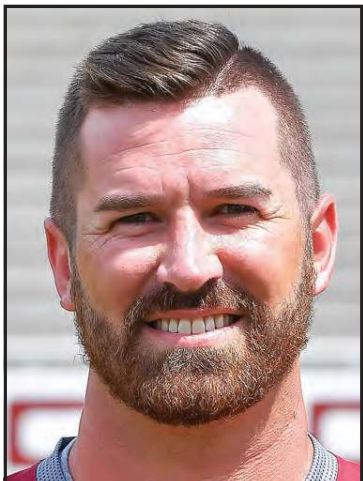
Eric Berry, Asst. Coach



Josh Fleenor, Asst. Coach



Richard Lewis, Asst. Coach



Zane Quesenberry, Asst. Coach



Rob Colley, Asst. Coach



Age

Continued from Page B1

ter than they were treated” when they started school.

Doeren, the Wolfpack coach, said he’s got to keep preaching the program’s tenets as if everyone in his meeting room is 17.

“I think you have to talk down to the youngest guy in the room all the time,” he said.

Wolfpack offensive lineman Tyrone Riley first arrived on campus — and redshirted — in 2015. Injuries cost him the 2016 and 2017 seasons and he made his first college start in 2018. Three years later, Riley has returned for his seventh season.

“It’s hard not to laugh a little at the new guys who are acting like they are going to die during practice,” Riley told The Fayetteville Observer in May. “When you’ve been here as long as me, it all becomes routine.”

At Clemson, coach Dabo Swinney and his staff rely on the culture they’ve built to help them win six straight ACC titles and make annual College Football

Playoff appearances. Older players, defensive coordinator Brent Venables said, understand their responsibility to the younger generation.

It’s helped with the quick maturation of Clemson starting safety Andrew Mukuba, an 18-year-old who enrolled in January.

Mukuba immediately sought out starter Nolan Turner, a “Super Senior” who’ll turn 24 before season’s end, to learn absolutely everything on succeeding in college.

Mukuba, Turner recalled, would sit next to him at film study and work alongside him at practices to improve.

“I knew that’s what I had to do to help the team,” Mukuba, from Austin, Texas, who is starting next to Turner.

North Carolina State’s Doeren accepts some older players may tune him out sometimes after hearing the same speeches for several years. It’s the only way, he said, to build a winning program.

“I know there’s monotony in that,” Doeren said, “but I promise you in NFL locker rooms there’s 38-year-old guys hearing the same messages we’re talking about.”

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Terry McCraw

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Grace is defined as being the free and unmerited favor of God, as manifested in the salvation of sinners.

Grace means God moving heaven and earth to save sinners who could not lift a finger to save themselves. Grace means God sending His only Son to die on the cross so that we, the guilty ones, might be reconciled to God and received into heaven.

Although grace and mercy are similar words, there is a distinction between the two. Mercy is God not punishing us as our sins deserve, and Grace is God blessing us, despite the fact that we do not deserve it.

The truth is we deserve nothing good from God. God doesn’t owe us anything. Anything good that we experience is the result of the grace of God. We receive by grace; salvation, forgiveness of sins, abundant life, and eternal life in Heaven.

Ephesians 2: 1-3. “And you hath He quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among who also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.”

“You hath He quickened,” means you who were dead in sin and trespasses, He has forgiven you and has given you new life. To quicken means to make alive. We were spiritually dead, but now we who are saved, have received a brand new life in Christ Jesus.

Spiritual death says everything about a lost condition. Before we were saved, we were in a sin darkened condition. We were blind to the great truths of God. We were slaves to sin. We were lovers of darkness rather than lovers of light. We were lost and undone. We were on a runaway roller coaster ride to a devil’s hell. We were outside of the boundaries of God. We were unable to save ourselves. We were aliens and strangers to God, and to all that is good. We openly and willingly partook of the lusts of the flesh.

We weren’t worth saving, but God, by His grace, devised a great plan of salvation, to save us anyhow.

Verses 4-7: “But God, Who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. That in the ages to come He might shew the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us, through Christ Jesus.”

Now why we may ask, would God save such as us? And the answer is because He is the God of grace. Grace is one of His most outstanding attributes.

The reason we are saved today, if we are, is found totally in God. God is rich in mercy, and it pleases Him to show us His great love, by saving our souls from destruction, by His wondrous grace.

We sometimes wonder why God loved us enough to save us. No human would ever be able to answer it sufficiently. One thing is certain, however. God does not love us because we are lovable, or because we deserve His love. If anything, the opposite is true. The state of mankind since the fall has been one of rebellion and disobedience.

Jeremiah 17:9 describes man’s inner condition: “The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked. Who can know it?”

Before we were saved, our innermost beings were so corrupted by sin that even we ourselves didn’t even realize the extent to

See MCCRAW, page B7

Church Directory

Draper Valley Baptist Church
3200 Lee Highway
Draper, Va. 24324
Pastor: Alan Pearce
Service Times:
Bible Study Sunday, 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening, 5 p.m.
email: drapervalleybc@gmail.com
www.drapervalleybaptist.org

Grace Baptist Church
552 E. Main Street
Dublin, Va. 24084
Pastor: Doug Testerman
674-1762
Primary Services:
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Sunday worship
Sunday Night Power Hour, 6 to 7 p.m.
Wednesday Night 7 to 8 p.m.
Grace Kids and Teens Bible Study

Open Door Baptist Church
4576 Miller Lane
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor: Rev. N.K. Howlett
Primary Services:
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11 a.m.
Wednesday Night, 7 p.m.
Phone: 980-2046

Draper United Methodist Church
3080 Greenbriar Road
Draper, VA 24324
Pastor: Rev. Jason Crandall
423-716-2570
Primary Service Times:
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Worship, 11 a.m.
Phone: 276-477-3835

Newbern Christian Church
Disciples of Christ
5183 Wilderness Road, Newbern
Rev. Denise and Ken Walker
540-440-8733

Christ Episcopal Church
144 North Washington Ave., Pulaski
Service: 10 a.m. every Sunday
Phone: 980-2413
Email: christ24301@gmail.com
www.christpulaski.dioswva.org

Jordan's Chapel UMC
Pastor: Jim Goddard
Worship: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Cecil's Chapel United Methodist Church
5801 Cecil's Chapel Road,
Hiwassee, VA 24347
Pastor Mark Asbury
Worship service is 8:45am-9:45am
Sunday School is 10 - 10:45am
Ricky Dishon, 540 239 6360, www.facebook.com/cecilschapel.umc

Newbern United Methodist Church
5155 Wilderness Road
Exit 98 off I-81 Newbern
Rev. Paige Wimberly
674-6111
Worship Services: 9:45 a.m.
Sunday School: 11 a.m.

Valley Harvest Ministries
1 Harvest Place
P.O. Box 458
Dublin, VA 24084
Senior Pastor Steve Willis
Associate Pastors:
Perry Slaughter, Elaine Wood, Derick Burton
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Wednesday School 7 p.m.
www.vhmdublin.org
540-674-4729

Mountain View United Methodist Church
6648 Wilderness Road
Dublin, VA 24084
Phone: 540-674-6111
mountainviewumc.yolasite.com/
Pastor: Paige Wimberly
Adult Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Morning Worship with Children's Church at 11 a.m.

Dublin Baptist Church
Dublin Baptist Church
100 Hawkins Street, Dublin, VA 24084
540-674-6061
secretary@dublinbaptistva.org
Website: dublinbaptistva.org
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship: 11 a.m.
Wednesday Youth Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Allisonia Pentecostal Holiness Church
1560 Julia Simpkins Road
Allisonia, VA
Pastor Justin Phillips
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship: 6 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
301 N. Jefferson Ave. - Pulaski (physical address)
135 Fourth St., NW - Pulaski (mailing address)
Pastor’s Name: Will Shelton
Hispanic Lay Pastor: Sebastian Ruiz
Sunday Service: 10:00 AM
Hispanic Worship: 11:00AM
Contact Info. Phone: 540.980.3331
e-mail: office@fumcpulask.org website: www.fumcpulask.org
FACEBOOK@FirstUMCPulaski and WBLB 10:00am

Belspring Baptist Church
6887 Depot Street
Belspring, VA 24058
Pastor Darrell Linkous
Service Times:
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday worship: 11 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study and Youth Group: 7 p.m.
Darrell Linkous: 353-0081
belspringbaptistchurch@gmail.com

Memorial Baptist Church
995 Peppers Ferry Road
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor: Michael S. Jones
Sunday
9:45 am - Sunday School
11:00 am - Worship
Wednesday
6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting
(540) 980-4731
Email: dfarley3@verizon.net

River of Life Church
5311 Black Hollow Road, Dublin, Va. 24084
Shawn Burchett, Pastor
Sunday School 9:15 AM
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Wednesday Evening Life
Building Service 7:00 PM
www.rolcdublin.com 540-674-4500

Delton Church of God of Prophecy
4570 Boyd Road, Draper, VA 24324
Pastor Vickie Lee Viars
deltoncogop@gmail.com (276) 620-3191
Sunday mornings - 11 AM to 12 PM
Sunday evenings-Facebook live services announced on Facebook
Wednesday evenings- To be announced at later future time until COVID-19 ceases
Delton COGOP is following all COVID-19 safety guidelines of social distancing, masks, cleaning, and disinfection.

Heritage Church
6195 Cleburne Boulevard, Dublin
Pastor Mike Pierce
Service Times:
Wednesdays, 7 p.m.;
Sundays, 10 a.m.
(540) 674-9220
Website: www.heritagechurch.net
Facebook.com/HeritageChurchDublinVA

Fairlawn Baptist
6758 Oxford Avenue
Fairlawn, VA 24141

First Missionary Baptist Church
7318 Manns Drive / P.O. Box 90
New River, Virginia 24129
(540) 639-5331
email: fmbc1872@verizon.net
Pastor: Rev. Richard A. Goodman, Sr.
Associate Minister:
Rev. Annette Cheek
Clerk: Mrs. Carlotta Lewis
Sundays:
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
The Lord's Supper - Each First Sunday
Wednesdays: Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Dublin United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 577
424 East Main Street
Pastors Don Hanshew & Don Shelor
(540) 674-5128
office@dublinumc.com
Early Worship - 8:45 am
Sunday School - 9:45 am
Praise & Worship Small Group - 10:00 am
Worship - 10:55 am

Freedom Fellowship Church
1730 West Street
Radford, VA 24141
Sr. Pastor: Jerry W. Collins
540-577-5780
jcollinsfreedomfellowship@yahoo.com
Sunday Service: 10 a.m.
11 a.m. Children's Church
Wednesday - 7 p.m. Service
7 p.m. Youth Service

Grace Episcopal Church
210 4th Street, Radford, 24141
639-3494
Service: 10:30AM Sundays
Email: office@graceradford.org
http://www.graceradford.org
Facebook: Grace Episcopal Church

Draper’s Valley Presbyterian (PCA)
2755 Old Baltimore Road,
Draper, VA 24324
Senior Pastor: Rev. Robert E. Davis
Associate Pastor: Rev. Roland Mathews
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship Service 6:15 p.m.
Wednesday Youth Groups and Adult Prayer & Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Phone - 540-994-9015
e-mail - drapers.valley@dvpca.org
website - www.dvpca.org
Sunday Morning Worship Live-Stream • 10:30 a.m. (or anytime on YouTube)

Trinity Lutheran Church ELCA
2 Fifth Street, N.W., Pulaski
540-980-3624
The Rev. Terrie Sternberg
trinitypulaski@gmail.com
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
(Sept. - May)
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
(June - Aug.)
Bible Study: Wednesday, 12:30
www.trinitypulaski.org

Trinity United Methodist
Pastor: Judy Yonce
Sunday Worship - 9:45 a.m.
Bible Study - Wednesday, 7 p.m.
528 5th Street, S.E.
Pulaski, Va.
Phone - 980-0820

Snowville Baptist Church
3238 Gum Log Road, Hiwassee
Pastor: Rev. Tony Hart
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Services: 11 a.m., 6 p.m.
Wednesday Night Service: 7 p.m.

Fairlawn United Methodist Church
7584 Brandon Road, Fairlawn, Va. 24141
Pastor Mark A. Miller
markmiller.psalml@gmail.com
Cell) 540-320-2431
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship (with children's message): 11 a.m.
Bible Study, Wednesday: 7 p.m.
Youth Ministry
Facebook.com/
Fairlawn-United-Methodist-Church

Grace Ministries Church of God of Prophecy
1021 Macgill Street
Pulaski, VA 24301
Church: 540-980-2118
Cell: 276-233-8083
Bus Ministry: 540-385-9972
www.pulaskigracemin.com
Email: pulaskigracemin@hotmail.com
Pastor Mike Williams
Children's Ministry
Aaron & Becky Sampson
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Children’s Church 10:30 a.m.
Children’s Free Breakfast 10:30 a.m.
Ages 5-12
Men’s & Women’s Ministry Wed. 6:30

Faith Bible Church
110 LaGrange Street, Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor: Jim Linkous
Associate Pastor: T.J. Cox
540-980-5433
www.facebook/faithbiblechurch
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
Sunday Children’s Church: 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening: 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m.
Children’s Meal: 6:30 p.m.
Children’s and Youth’s Group Classes: 7 p.m.

Dublin Christian Church
5605 Dunlap Road
P.O. Box 1330
Dublin, VA 24084
(540) 674-8434
www.dublinchristianchurch.com
Richard R. Goad, Jr.
Senior Minister
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship and Youth Meeting, 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study and Children's Bible Classes, 7 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church
408 N. Jefferson Avenue, Pulaski
Pastor Melissa McNair-King
(540) 980-2132
firstprespulaskiva@gmail.com
www.firstpresbyterianpulaski.org
Sunday Services:
Sept.-May: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., Service 11 a.m.
June-Labor Day: Service 10 a.m.
Wednesday Family Night, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Thornspring United Methodist Church
5670 Thornspring Church Rd.
Dublin, VA 24084
Pastor: Rev. Teresa Tolbert
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Worship Service: 11 a.m.
Phone: (540) 980-2927

First Baptist Church
5473 Baskerville Street
Dublin, VA 24084
Pastor Wallis Brown
540-674-2677
Service: 11 a.m.

New Dublin Presbyterian Church
5331 New Dublin Church Road
Dublin, VA 24084
Pastor: Sara Jane Nixon
Website: newdublinpres.org
540-674-6147
Services 11:00 AM Sundays

Community Christian Church
5382 Grace Street, Dublin VA, 24084
540-674-4308
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.

First Dublin Presbyterian Church (ECO)
409 Church Street, Dublin, Va. 24084
P.O. Box 2027, Dublin, Va. 24084
first-dublin-presbyterian-church-eco.com
Minister:
The Rev. Dr. Olin Marsh Whitener, Jr.

Max Creek Baptist Church
3000 Old Route 100 Road, Draper, Va. 24324
www.maxcreek.org
www.facebook.com/maxcreekbaptist
Senior Pastor: Mike Coleman
Youth Minister: Charlie Prince
Director of Visitation: Ersel Alderman
Sunday Services
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Morning Worship: 11 a.m.
Teen Social and Class: 5 p.m.
Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study & Classes: 7 p.m.

Pulaski Church of God
1621 Bob White Boulevard
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor Donald Jones
540-980-8880
www.pulaskicog.church
Sunday Services
Sunday Life Groups: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays Midweek Connect: 7 p.m.

Showers of Blessing Church of God in Christ
305 Newbern Road, Dublin
Pastor Elder Stephen Muse
Come and Worship With Us!
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday Night Bible Study: 7-8 p.m.

Randolph Avenue United Methodist Church
1607 Randolph Avenue
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Elston McLain
Worship Service: 11 a.m.
Phone: (540) 980-8775

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Pulaski Christian Church, Inc.
4531 Brookmont Road, Pulaski, VA 24301
www.pulaskichristianchurch.com/
Rev. Kathy Warden, Pastor,
(540) 250-2974
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
Worship 7 p.m.
Monday Bible Study
7 to 9 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study
7 p.m.

Aldersgate United Methodist
1946 Medallion Drive
Pulaski, VA 24301
(540) 980-1349
Pastor Jim Goddard
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

First Baptist Church
220 Magazine Street
Pulaski, VA 24301
540-980-3336
Email: firstbaptist220@gmail.com
Pastor: Rev. Douglas Patterson
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Monday's Child Youth Group, Monday
Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Pulaski Presbyterian Church (PCA)
975 Memorial Drive
Pulaski, VA 24301
Office Phone: 980-2631
Email: pastor@pulaskipca.org
Website: www.pulaskipca.org
Stated Supply: Rev. John Gess
Sunday School: 10:00am
Worship Service: 11:00am

Sure Foundation Christian Fellowship
6598 Annie Akers Road
Radford, VA 24141
(540) 639-3443
Pastor Steve Phillips
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00 am
Sunday Night Prayer: 5:30 pm
Wednesday Night
Prophetic Teaching: 6:30 pm

New Hope Chapel
1555 Case Knife Road
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor Darrell Gray
(276) 733-6080
Pastor Gray and congregation invite you to
New Hope Chapel.
Service Times:
10 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Sunday Service

Family Worship Center First Pentecostal Holiness
955 Memorial Drive, Pulaski
540-980-7287
Jeff Willhoite, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
KidsZone 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.
www.fwcpulaski.church

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Pulaski First Church of the Brethren
1749 Newbern Road
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor Frank Peters
Sunday School: 9:45
Worship: 11 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.
980-3798

Abundant Life Ministries
3050 Lee Highway
Pulaski, VA 24301 (540) 980-5506
(Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m.-1 p.m.)
Pastor Randall K. Lawrence Sr.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evenings 6 p.m. by announcement
Wednesday Evenings (Family Night) 6:30-7
pm children fed, 7:15 pm Bible Classes all ages
Adult Bible Class
THRIVE Teen Class
Children's Bible Class and
Special Activitiy Classes

New Life Church of the Nazarene
45 S. Jefferson Avenue
Pulaski, VA 24301
540-980-2001
www.newlifepulaski.com
email: pastorjuls@verizon.net
Pastor: Julie Armbrister
Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 a.m.
Sunday worship: 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 6 p.m.

Trinity Baptist Church
4008 Robinson Tract Road
Pulaski, VA 24301
Telephone: 980-8186
Pastor Johnny Howlett
Minister of Education Rev. Steve Taylor
Sunday Worship - 10 a.m.
Sunday Bible Study - 6 p.m.
Wednesday - Adult Bible Study and Youth
Group - 7 p.m.

Grace Fellowship Baptist Church
2640 Max Creek Road
P.O. Box 326
Hiwassee, VA 24347
Pastor: Jason N. Aker
Phone: 276-699-3176
pastorjasonaker@gmail.com
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service: 11 a.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7 p.m.

St. Edwards Catholic Church
Corner of N. Washington Ave. and
7th Street N.W., Pulaski
Phone: 980-6511
Fax: 980-6511
Priest: Fr. Francis Boateng
Mass: 11 a.m. Sunday

Warriors for Christ II
Bishop Sherman Buckner
600 Skyline Circle
Pulaski, VA
540-315-2317
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Worship: 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Thursday: 7 p.m. Service

Bob White Boulevard Baptist Church
3826 Bob White Boulevard
Pulaski, VA.
Pastor: Allen Harman
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Preaching: 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening: 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7:30 p.m.
FUNDAMENTAL

First Baptist Church
325 Randolph Avenue
Pulaski, Va.
Pastor: Dr. Henry Fiske
Phone: 980-6565
fbcpulaskiva@gmail.com
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.

Pathway to Heaven Worship Center
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 434
Dublin, VA 24084
Physical Address: 7889 Cleburne Blvd.
Dublin, VA 24084
Pastor Winfred Keene - Phone 540-239-8092
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship: 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
Tuesday Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Amazing Grace Ministries
4892 Veterans Hill Road
Pulaski, VA
Pastor Todd Garwood
(540) 250-3741
ttgarwood674@gmail.com

McCraw

Continued from Page B6
which sin has tainted us. In our natural state, we did not seek God and we did not love God.

How then, is it possible, for a holy, righteous, and perfect God to love such a creature? “There is none righteous, no, not one; There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.”

To understand this we must understand something of the nature and character of God. 1st John 4:8 says “God IS love.” His very nature is love. And being Love, it pleases Him to demonstrate His Love. He shows His great love by lavishing it on people who are undeserving of love, and who are in rebellion against Him. God’s love is a self-sacrificing love. He demonstrated His great love for us by sending His only begotten Son to die upon the cross for us; by saving us from our sins; by giving to us, His Holy Spirit to dwell in us, enabling us to love others as God loves us.

So the answer to the question, why does God love us, it is because of Who He is. God is love.

Romans 5:8 says, “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

The good work that Jesus did on the cross for us, is God’s ultimate proof of His love for us.

The greatness of His love for us, is not just that Jesus died on the cross, but that He died for undeserving sinners.

Frederick Lehman wrote a wonderful song. Entitled “The love of God.”

The love of God, is greater far, than tongue or pen can ever tell, it goes beyond the highest star, and reaches to the lowest Hell.

Oh, love of God, how rich and pure!

How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure—
The saints’ and angels’ song.

The last verse of this song was found penciled on the wall of a patient’s room in an insane asylum, after his body had been carried to his grave.”

The man who wrote them wasn’t crazy, but had a concept of the love of God that few are able to grasp.

Here’s that last verse of the Love of God.

Could we with ink the ocean fill,
And were the skies of parchment made,

Were every stalk on earth a quill,
And every man a scribe by trade;

To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll, contain the whole,
Though stretched from sky to sky.

We’ll probably never be able to understand the height and breathe and depth of the love of God; if we live to be a hundred; but what we can do is accept it, and love God back, with all of our hearts, souls, minds and spirits.

1 John 4: 19 says, We love Him because He first loved us.

God’s love for us is from everlasting to everlasting. His love for us precedes our love for Him.

Bible Trivia

1. Is the book of Ephesians in the Old Testament, New Testament or neither?

2. Which disciple did Jesus call Cephas, which is Aramaic for “rock”? Peter, Paul, Thomas, Judas

3. From 2 Kings 14, who built Elath (town) and restored it to Judah? Solomon, Nimrod, Azariah, Hiel

4. Which tribe of Israel was set apart to serve in the Holy Temple? Dan, Gad, Levi, Simeon

5. In Genesis 41-42, what crisis did Joseph’s family face? Flood, Famine, Disease, Exile

6. Whose ear did Peter cut off? His own, Malchus, Baasha, Azariah

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Peter; 3) Azariah; 4) Levi; 5) Famine; 6) Malchus

No one knows what a day may bring

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: I’ve been healthy my entire life until I hit 60. There’s so much I’ve learned since my diagnosis of cancer, so now when I try to encourage others in their time of need, they seem to listen more than when I was healthy. Why is this? - B.H.

A: There are many who have enjoyed good health most of their lives. But those who suffer bad health often learn how to help others going through similar valleys of despair. That’s why

it is wise to be a good listener when others are suffering. There isn’t much that can be said to those who are hurting and we should ask God for wisdom -- when to be silent and when to speak. Often it isn’t the words we say as much as encouraging others with our presence, but sharing our own experiences can cause people to realize that they’re not alone in their suffering.

The Bible reminds us that there’s a time for everything: a time to be born and a time to die (Ecclesiastes 3). So many



My Answer

Billy Graham

testimonials speak of how God spoke to them in sickness and their personal faith in Him grew stronger. Someone recently said, “I could have never said this before cancer, but now that I have completed my treatment and am on the road to recovery, I praise

the Lord that He used it to open the door to tell others why I hope in the Lord!” Our own inadequacy should drive us to the Lord.

No one knows what a day may bring but Christians can point to the One who sees us through trials. “Through the Lord’s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness” (Lamentations 3:22-23).

(This column is based on the words and writings of the late Rev. Billy Graham.)

